
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426



NEWS RELEASE

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

Hedley Burrell
(202) 208-0680

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CHAIRMAN HOECKER ON COURT DECISION ON ORDER NOS. 888, 889

Commenting on today's decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which found few defects in Order Nos. 888 and 889 and upheld them in nearly all respects, Chairman James J. Hoecker of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission said:

"My preliminary review of the court's decision indicates that the Commission's Order was affirmed in all important respects. This is a great victory, not only for the Commission, but for the great American energy-consuming public. It ratifies our move toward competitive power markets pursuant to the Federal Power Act. Standing on this platform, the Commission must now ensure that the promise of Order No. 888—open, transparent, efficient and non-discriminatory wholesale power markets—is fully realized, through RTOs and beyond."

Order Nos. 888 and 889, issued in April 1996, opened up the nation's transmission grid to all users, furthering competition in the electric power industry.